The project authorities are presently formulating these plans on the basis of studies and surveys carried out.

(b) and (c) The World Bank has stipulated certain time frame for completion of various bench mark studies including preparation of environmental work plan and Narmada basin environmental management plan. The targets fixed by World Bank are being adhered to.

Kolleru Lake in Andhra Pradesh

4102. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that 'Kolleru Lake' in Andhra Pradesh is a water-fowl habitat;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that illegal encroachments of vast areas in this lake-bed have taken place;

(c) whether there is any proposal to conserve this wet-land; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) With a view to improve its conservation status, Kolleru lake is included under the Wetlands Programme funded by the Ministry of Environment and Forests. A portion of the lake has been also declared as a bird sanctuary. Financial assistance has been provided for the protection of water-fowl in Kolleru lake through strengthening of watch and ward patrolling, construction of watch towers, generating environment education and awareness and research aspects.

Hooghly Waters unfit for bathing

4103. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Hooghly waters unfit for bathing' which appeared in the Times of India dated 27th November, 1991;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what steps are being taken to clean this river.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The water quality of Ganga is being regularly monitored along 20 locations including 4 locations in West Bengal. The water of Ganga in West Bengal satisfies the criteria prescribed for bathing except in the case of foecal coliforms. Some heavy metals are present but at their concentrations they do not make water unfit for bathing.

(c) In West Bengal 110 schemes for abatement of pollution have been sanctioned out of which 77 have been completed. Except for a few schemes, the remaining schemes are expected to be completed in 1993-94, after which the water quality is expected to improve further.

Scheme to develop Forest on Bald Hills and Canal Bank

4104. SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRIMATI ILA PANDA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop Forest on Bald Hills and